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FARMINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH // ISSUE 8 // MARCH 2020

# *THE GROVE*

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# Ask the Staff

## HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE TRANSFORMED THIS YEAR DURING THE SEASON OF LENT?

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### **PASTOR KEVIN**

How do I describe this? I think God in ordinary ways tries to renew us. I think this happens in prayer, in being encountered by the Word, in nature, in rest, in play, etc. I would like to be transformed into the most creative and thoughtful version of myself. I think this happens when I leave room for God to renew me by prioritizing exercise, spending time in nature, and rest.

### **KARISSA**

I usually choose a word at the beginning of each year as a goal. Previous years have included focus, presence, compassion, authenticity. This year is “fearless.” I aim to prioritize and balance family and work time. I’m also grateful and open to opportunities with my musical compositions.

### **KRISTINE**

During Lent I would like to be transformed into trusting in and listening to God's plans instead of spending time worrying and trying to do things on my own.

### **PASTOR CHRIS**

It hit me right in the face a number of years ago. I was talking to someone after church and there were two other people waiting to talk with me. I was trying to listen but became distracted and tried to pay attention to everyone waiting. I went home that day and vowed that I would start to focus on one person at a time. This was and still is hard for me as a person who sets a daily calendar with times and who is always thinking about what is needed for tomorrow. The idea of being “present in the moment” is my hope for this Lenten journey. Present with God as I take time to simply listen. Present with my grandchildren so that I don’t view them as interrupting my day. Present with my wife so that I can be a better listener. The psalm writer said it best for me – Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46

### **DAWN**

I would like to find some quiet or a feeling of peace during this season of Lent. My life has been a little crazy lately.

## **JIM**

I have a hot and fevered brain. I often find myself thinking about more than one thing at a time, with topics in my head scrolling through like a fast-motion video. Because of that, my focus suffers, and I often forget what I was doing just a moment before. I would like to be transformed by the reflective Lenten journey, and be calmed by the quiet and untroubled spirit of God.

## **JEN**

During this Lenten season, I would like to worry less and be present more. I find myself getting caught up in the "what ifs" and trying to prevent problems from happening. Instead of preventing anything, I just end up missing out on the small adventures of everyday life. I intend to focus more on those daily events and less on what may or may not happen.

## **LINDA**

I would like to truly lay my doubts and fears in God's hands, then stop thinking and worrying about them.

## **LEANNE**

During the season of Lent, I would like to find a way to not be too overwhelmed by all the little things in life that just seem to add up. To find a better way to adjust to the situation and be able to find the positive.

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT: CARLOS HEIKKILA

## facility maintenance

The Bible says,  
"Whoever works  
his land will have  
plenty of bread,  
but he who follows  
worthless pursuits  
lacks sense."  
Proverbs 12:11



A couple of months after I was adopted from Tijuana, Mexico, at age 15, I started my first job assisting a grounds keeping company. Speaking relatively no English was difficult, but having the opportunity to work was a dream come true. Since then, I have started my own business in lawn care, have the ability to go to school, and work with the wonderful people at Farmington Lutheran.

Outside of work and study, I find myself enjoying soccer and was a captain for United Christian Academy's team (a private school in Bloomington). Snowmobiling, baseball, skiing, hunting, and horseback riding are a few other activities I enjoy. In my spare time, I assist a ranch in Hampton called Haven Acres. They are a nonprofit, Christian organization that helps kids via horses.

# KOIN

WEDNESDAYS

8:00–9:00 pm

Youth and friends grades 9-12 are invited for food, games, and time centered on our faith.



## 8TH GRADE RETREAT

APRIL 18 – 19, 2020

Eighth grade youth, guides, and junior guides will meet at 9:00 am on Saturday, April 18th to depart for Camp Wapo and the 8th grade retreat.

This is an extremely important time together. I ask that you please make this a priority. The weekend will be spent participating in large and small group times, games, making your Confirmation stole, and preparing for your Confirmation day.

Register at <https://www.farmingtonlutheran.com/youth-retreats>



Confirmation groups meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00.

# SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP



*Senior High Mission Trip to West Virginia  
July 11 - 19, 2020*

Youth and friends grades 8-12 are invited to be a part of the 2020 Senior High Mission Trip to Beckley, West Virginia. Step out of your comfort zone and make friends, have a ton of fun, serve, grow closer to God and much more. Mission trip packets are located at the youth board and on the website. Commitment forms should be turned in to the office at your earliest convenience. Next meeting is Sunday, March 1 at 9:45 am.

# SPRING PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER

Spring is coming!

Order all of your gardening needs and support a great cause. Pick up an order form at FLC or at [farmingtonlutheran.com](http://farmingtonlutheran.com). Order forms are due to the church office by Wednesday, April 8.

Proceeds from the plant sale will go towards the Senior High Mission Trip to West Virginia.

For questions please contact Kristine at [Kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:Kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com).



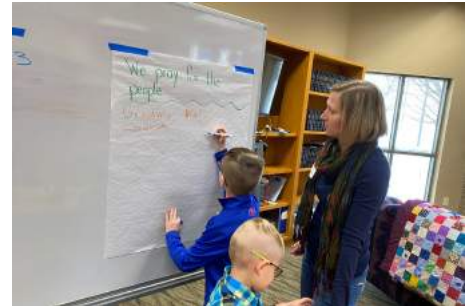
Plants will be delivered Sunday, May 3.

# Milestone Events

MILESTONE EVENTS OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR STUDENTS AGES THREE YEARS OLD THROUGH 5TH GRADE. VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UPCOMING MILESTONE EVENTS

## 2ND GRADE MILESTONE

We had our 2nd grade milestone on Prayer on Sunday, February 9. The children and parents (grandparents too) learned about prayer through ACTS. ACTS stands for Adoration, Confession, Thanks, and Supplication. Pastor Chris broke it down for our 2nd graders to understand and then we spent time at different stations. Children were able to create prayer boxes, a cross, prayer sticks, and pick up prayer coloring sheets to use at home. The children and families were also given prayer cubes and pins.



**APOSTLES'  
CREED**

## CALLING ALL 4TH GRADERS!

On Tuesday, March 3 at 6:00 pm we will be learning all about the Apostles' Creed. All 4th graders and at least one caring adult should attend this important event. Fourth graders will then read their creed during one of the services the weekend of March 7 and 8. Visit us online to register today!

# KIC EVENTS

## KIC LOCK-IN

KiC (4th and 5th graders) had their Lock-In at FLC on February 7. They had way too much food due to all the activities that were planned for them. The group worked on a service project (checking out the church games to make sure all the pieces were accounted for), created posters based on Bible verses, and played games.



## MARCH 6: TUBING AT BUCK HILL

4th and 5th graders (and families) are invited to enjoy a night of tubing at Buck Hill in Burnsville. We will be meeting at the tubing hill by 7:00 pm and will enjoy the hill until 9:00 pm. Please sign up on the website today and enjoy a fun filled night of laughter and tubing. The cost is \$16 and non-refundable.



Questions? Contact  
Dawn Albrecht at [Dawn@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:Dawn@farmingtonlutheran.com)

# WHAT DO YOU THINK? DOES JESUS STILL CHANGE PEOPLE'S LIVES TODAY?

WRITTEN BY KEVIN WOESTEHOFF

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds..." Romans 12:2

As we read through Mark's gospel this year we hear story after story of people's lives transformed by Jesus. People being set free from demons, illnesses, exclusion, and other forces that had held them back from experiencing abundant life.

I don't know any specific magic formula for how God transforms lives but I firmly believe that Jesus still makes a difference in peoples lives today. Jesus still has the power to renew us and transform us.

How do you want to be transformed? Our theme for Lent 2020 is "Journey of Transformation." How do you want to be different when we celebrate the resurrection on Easter this coming April 12?

Would you take some time to reflect on your life as a follower of Jesus?

How do you want to be transformed? What do you want to be different?

Maybe it's to be transformed to better show Jesus' love or patience or compassion for the people around you. Or to experience peace? Or for God's generosity to better shine through in how we live and treat people?

How do you want to be transformed?

Would you pray about it? Would you like our prayer chain and myself to pray for you? We will. Do you think it's possible that even through this first step of prayer, that the journey of transformation has begun? I do. Because Jesus changes lives.



*Maybe it's to be transformed to better show Jesus' love or patience or compassion for the people around you. Or to experience peace?*



## WHAT DOES "LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF" LOOK LIKE?

Members of Farmington Lutheran have accepted the invitation to be "Congregational Caregivers." They participated in three brief training sessions. Some have volunteered to connect with other members via writing (yes, actually writing a card) to their two assigned people once a month. Others volunteered to make telephone calls twice a month to their two assigned people, while others said they would visit once a month one assigned person. Finally, two people volunteered to help with hospital or transitional care visits.

All of these 26 caregivers carry out the ministry of building connections and relationships. All of these caregivers are providing a caring ministry to people ranging from college students to seniors.

You are invited to share your time and skills as we recruit more people for this ongoing vital ministry. Our goal is to add ten more people to the team so that 20 more people can be supported, affirmed, and embraced by the Grace of God.

Contact Interim Pastor Chris Becker at [beck1230@comcast.net](mailto:beck1230@comcast.net) or call the church office at 651-463-4100. Watch for training session dates and times.



## SUMMER 2020: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

CAMP EMMAUS May 29-30  
Grades: Currently in 2nd or 3rd

CAMP WAPO June 14-19  
Grades: Completed 4th-8th

SEEDS WEEKEND AT WAPO June 19-21  
Grades: Completed 1st-3rd

MISSION TRIP July 11-19  
Grades: Completed 8th-12th

VBS July 20-24  
Grades: PreK\*-4th  
\*with adult volunteer for the week

KIC ROCKS July 20-24  
Grades: Entering 5th and 6th

TWO DAY MUSIC CAMP July 21-22  
Grades: K-7th

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN, VISIT US ONLINE

# 2020: LENT AND EASTER

worship times and programming information

## ASH WEDNESDAY

*Wednesday, February 26*

12:00 pm

5:30 pm

7:00 pm

## LENT SCHEDULE

*March 4-April 1*

Holden Worship 7:00-7:40 pm

*March 4, 11, 18, and April 1*

Soup Supper 5:00-6:30 pm

Wednesday School 1 5:00-5:40 pm

Wednesday School 2 5:50-6:30 pm

No Children's Music

8th Grade: Meet with Mentors

Joyful Ringers 6:00-6:45 pm

Sanctuary Choir 7:40-8:30 pm

KOIN 8:00-9:00 pm

*March 4*

6th Grade: Service projects and dinner together

*March 11*

7th Grade: Service projects and dinner together

*March 25*

Adult Music Potluck 6:00-6:45 pm

No Joyful Ringers

Sanctuary Choir 7:40-8:30 pm

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

Joyful Ringers 6:00-7:00 pm

Sanctuary Choir 7:00-8:00 pm

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Thursday, April 9*

First Communion

5:30 pm

7:00 pm

## GOOD FRIDAY

*Friday, April 10*

12:00 pm Ecumenical  
(lunch following)

7:00 pm

## SATURDAY, APRIL 11

No Worship Service

## EASTER

*Sunday, April 12*

6:30 am Sunrise Service

8:00 am

9:15 am

10:45 am

# PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

SATURDAY, MARCH 14  
5:30 – 9:00 PM

Youth and children ages 2 - 11 are invited for a night in at Farmington Lutheran Church. The night will consist of dinner, games, a craft, music, and a movie while parent(s) enjoy a night out.

Registration forms are available at [farmingtonlutheran.com](http://farmingtonlutheran.com) or at the church office.

Forms should be submitted by March 11. Suggested donation is \$20 - \$25 per child. Donations go to help support the Senior High Mission Trip to West Virginia.

Contact Kristine at [kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com) with questions.



## STAFF BLOGS NOW ONLINE

Check out our staff blogs (on the front page of our website, the button that says "Blogs and Videos"). We hope to tell stories of faith and spirituality. It will be a place to explore the mission of Farmington Lutheran and your own devotional practices. Look for one or two blogs each week.



# NEW PASTOR UPDATE

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*WRITTEN BY JIM OLLHOFF*

We continue to move forward toward a pastoral intern (student pastor) from Luther Seminary. Pastor Kevin will be interviewing potential candidates shortly. We won't know until April if the seminary assigns us an intern, but we are optimistic!

The intern would begin in August and be with us for a year. He or she would be able to do many of the duties of a pastor, and would be under the supervision of Pastor Kevin. Our task as a congregation would be to welcome the intern and teach the intern about life in the church.

Traditionally, interns have had two years of classes, then go on internship for a year, and then go back to seminary for a final year of classes. However, with a growing number of nontraditional students (such as people who are second-career), we may get an intern who has gone to school for three years, and will spend their fourth and final year at the internship site.

Interns can bring new ideas and new energy to an internship site. Please pray for a spirit-driven process!



# MUSIC MINISTRY DINNER

Wednesday, March 25  
6:00-6:45 pm

Are you interested in participating in one of FLC's music ensembles? If you have considered it (no pressure to commit), come meet our Praise Band, Joyful Ringers, and Sanctuary Choir members! Our musicians are providing a potluck dinner on Wednesday, March 25, from 6:00-6:45 pm in the Gathering space. This will be a fun time of fellowship and food. Join us!

## BOWLING FOR CAMPERSHIPS

On Friday, April 17 Farmington Lutheran and friends will be heading to the lanes to raise money for our summer camperships! We have partnered with Farmington Lanes for a fun night and a great cause! Here's how it works:

- Sign up for two hours of bowling:
  - 5:00-7:00 pm or 7:30-9:30 pm
- Pay \$10 at the bowling alley (includes shoe rental)
- Bowl for 2 hours

Farmington Lanes gives back \$5 per person for our camperships!

Friday night After Dark bowling, 8:00 pm-1:00 am, for any night owls! The cost of this special time is \$13 per person (unlimited bowling and shoes). Farmington Lanes will give back \$6.50 for the After Dark bowling.



## CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council is the group that provides leadership for the strategic direction of Farmington Lutheran. This is the group that looks at “Where should we be in three years?” Strategic oversight is the key role for the council.

The council also approves job descriptions and staff hires. They approve permanent policies and stay up-to-date on issues in the church.

In February each year, the council has a retreat. This year, the council discussed key priorities for 2020. These key priorities are:

- Increasing the amount of intergenerational faith formation.
- Facilitating the process of engagement and enlarging the circle of ministry.
- Continuing to be rooted in the Farmington community in a variety of ways.
- Creating inspiring stewardship processes.
- Reviewing the existing strategic plan and initiating a new cycle of planning.
- Strengthening ministry teams.

*Did you know?*

Once elected, Church Council members serve a three-year term. If you're interested in learning more about Church Council, contact Council President, Ajay Cook at [Ajay@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:Ajay@farmingtonlutheran.com).

Below are this year's council members. Please give them thanks and let them know what you think about the key priorities!

Ajay Cook  
Greg Newman  
Bob Brownawell  
Peter Elliott  
Kay Halstrom

Rachel Harmon  
Brian Jakubowsky  
Blaine Kadlec  
Chris Lynch

Susan Rinke  
Jami Roberts  
Becky Ruud  
Andrea Tschetter





## March 31 : Choice Dollars Deadline

March 31st is the final day to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars for Farmington Lutheran Church! More information on designating your dollars can be found [here](#).

## Just A Minute (for spiritual growth)

Psalm 46:1 reads: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble."

Through news reports, doctor appointments, and life's uncertainties leaning on these words from David that God is our refuge and strength and that He is always with us no matter what brings hope, shelter, and strength when life can seem unbearable. May you be reminded today that no matter what is going on in your life God is with you always and forever.

## Visitor's Corner

### LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

March 4, 11, 18, April 1

5:00 – 6:30 pm

All are invited to come and enjoy homemade soup, sandwiches, and goodies while supporting youth going to Camp Wapo this summer.

Soup week one will be chicken noodle and broccoli cheese.

Suggested donation is \$5 per person; all amounts are accepted and appreciated.

We're looking for helpers! Sign up online today! Youth and parents of youth going to Camp Wapo this summer can earn money to help with their camp cost.

Would you, your family, friends, or ministry group like to donate towards the cost of a Wednesday night soup supper? If so, please contact [kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:kristine@farmingtonlutheran.com).

## WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:45 am



[www.farmingtonlutheran.com](http://www.farmingtonlutheran.com)

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